Multipurpose identity cards

163. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated by the Central Government to issue multipurpose identification cards for all citizens to check illegal immigration;

(b) if so, the details thereof and specific steps initiated to implement the proposal;

(c) whether it is true that some of the States have raised objections to the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details of the State-wise objections received and efforts made to arrive at a consensus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The Government proposes to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards to Indian citizens, which, apart from providing a credible identification system, would also have multifarious socio-economic uses. Since creating a Data Base of entire population of the country is a gignatic task, which requires in-depth examination of all the relevant issues, it has been decided by the Government to undertake a pilot Project on an experimental basis in a few sub-districts in various districts of 13 States and Union Territories. Consultations have been held with the concerned State Government / UT Administrations on the modalities of implementing the scheme. None of the State Governments / UT Administrations have objected to the proposal.

The main scheme will be launched after taking into account the experiences / lessons drawn from the Pilot Project.